in Karnataka has been recommended to the Licensing Committee;

(b) whether the State Government wants to set up this plant in the Joint Sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) M/s. Karnataka State Industrial Investment & Development Corporation Ltd. (KSIIDC), a State Government Undertaking of the Government of Karnataka, has selected M/s. Essar Gujarat Ltd. as their Joint Sector partner for setting up of an integrated Steel Plant in Bellary District of Karnataka. The proposed capacity of the plant, at completion, is estimated to be 3 MTPA. The product mix includes flat and non flat products.

In view of the recently announced changes in the industrial policy, an industrial licence is not necessary for setting up this project by KSIIDC.

National Centre for Oil palm Research in Karnataka

176. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Karnataka has represented to the Central Government for establishment of a National Centre for Oil-palm Research; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed specifications of the land required for setting up the Centre have been communicated to the Government of Karnataka for suggesting a suitable site.

Utilisation of irrigation potential

177. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a gap in the utilisation of irrigation potential created in the country under large medium and minor irrigation projects;

(b) if so, what is the break-up of this gap in terms of large, medium and minor irrigation and to which plan period does this gap relate to; and

(c) whether Government have prepared a time bound plan for utilisation of this potential, if so, the details of the plan and of investment likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the end of VI Plan, the gaps in utilisation of irrigation potential created through major & medium and minor schemes were 46.8 lakh hecteres and 22.7 lakh hectares respectively. At the end of VII Plan, the corresponding figures were 50.2 lakh hectares and 33.0 lakh hectares respectively.

(c) The Government is implementing the Command Area Development Programme for reducing the gap between potential created and utilised and has also taken a series of measures for improving water management practices, to bridge the gap. In addition, the States have also been asked to re-appraise the figures of potential created in order to correct over-reporting, if any.

Companies defaulting in remittance of P.F. accounts

178. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of companies defaulting in remittances to P.F. account as on 31st July, 1991:

(b) the amount of money involved; and

(c) the details of the action taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The available infromation as on 31-3-1991 was as given below :—

(*Rs. in crores*)

	Total No. of defaulting establishments	Amount due
Unexempted establishments	11,029	96.02
Exempted establishments	156	131.97
TOTAL	11,185	227.99

(c) The E.P.F. authorities are generally taking the following action against the defulters for realisation of the outstanding dues :—

(i) Recovery certificates are being issued under Section 8 of the EPF Act, for recovery of the dues through the Recovery machinery of the Organisation.

(ii) Prosecution cases are being filed under Section 14 of the EPF Act.

(iii) Complaints under section 406/409 IPC are filed in cases of non-payment of employees' share of contribution deducted from the wages of the employees.

(iv) Damages are levied under Section 14-B of the EPF Act for belated payments.

Dues of farmers against Sugar Mills

179. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of arrears remains to be paid to farmers in each State as on 31st July, 1991 in respect of sugarcane price;

(b) the reasons for delay in payment; and

(c) by when the same is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Reports on cane price arrears upto 31-7-91 have not yet been received from all factories. State-wise cane price arrears for 1990-91 season, as per latest available reports from the sugar factories, is given in the statement.

(b) and (c) Ensuring timely payment of cane price by the sugar factories is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments who have got the necessary powers and field organisations to enforce such payments. Central Government has requested the State Governments to take necessary steps to liquidate the cane price arrears.

Statement

Statement showing statewise arrears of sugarcane price payable to farmers during 1990-91 *season as per latest available reports from Sugar Factories*

(*Figures in Lack Rupees*)

State	Cane price arrears as reported by sugar factories
1	2
Punjab	1423.75
Haryana	677.46